THE PATH TO GLORY UNTOLD

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I would like to speak to you about freedom.

Freedom means the right to choose. To choose, you must have some sense of direction. You must know where you are going. To have a sense of direction, you must have some sense of meaning. To have a sense of meaning, you must have some sense of purpose.

Mankind today has no sense of purpose. Mankind today has no sense of meaning. Mankind today has no sense of direction. Mankind today is not free but is a prisoner of his own despair.

The challenge we face is how to emancipate mankind, and to do this we must discover a sense of purpose. If we can do this, we can then understand the meaning of our age, and through this understanding we can then discover a sense of direction, and in so doing, make mankind free to choose.

To do this, we need a new concept of genesis. Today there is revealed in the theater of mankind's awareness a new concept of the genesis of mankind as revealed by science. This genesis begins with a super nova.

A super nova is a large star exploding. Prior to this explosion, and after it has consumed most of the hydrogen and most of the helium of which it is composed, it collapses toward its center. It is in this collapse that there is created a crucible, and within this crucible there is evolved 1 percent of the elements that comprise the material universe.

So far as we know, the material universe is comprised of 90 percent hydrogen, 9 percent helium, and all the other elements make up 1 percent. This 1 percent is created in the crucible of a collapsing star.

There is, then, the explosion which radiates out into the universe in all the colors of the rainbow. In this majestic moment there is heralded a new event. The universe is, in effect, told that something new and something that is needed is coming. We are aware we are witnessing a cosmic

conception, for the debris of this ecstasy fertilizes the recumbent figure of a hydrogen cloud which can stretch for trillions of miles long and may be trillions of miles wide.

As we watch, we see, condensed out of this hydrogen cloud, cottony balls of gas which then further condense into a sun with orbiting planets.

One of these planets, the one we call earth, appears to be covered with water. If we were to follow a beam of light from the sun into the depths of this primeval sea, we might see quaking at the end of this point of light, provided we had a microscope, something that looks like an amoeba. Then if we could compress eons of time into seconds, we would see this amoeba-like cell divide and subdivide. It might appear to join other cells to make larger bodies that swim.

We would see one of these bodies crawl from the water onto land, and walk, and run, and climb, and fly.

We would see land masses heave up and buckle into ridges of mountain ranges. We would see large glacial ice masses sculpt valleys and lake beds out of the surface of the earth.

Then we would discern a form of energy we would recognize, identify with, and call man.

Remember, all that has occurred has occurred with the same basic building blocks of energy. The building blocks have not changed, but the forms which are built with these building blocks have changed and have changed constantly.

This final form of energy on this earth, man, is the first form to speak. We do not understand its first words, but they appear in elegant drawings on the walls of caves. The first words we do understand are in the writing of cuneiform and hieroglyphics, and what they say, they say clearly. They say we seek God, meaning, and purpose.

Within the brief span that we call history, this form of energy pursues this search, and in the process develops all that we call culture.

The effect is synthesis, for it takes all the other forms of energy of which this earth is comprised, such as iron, coal, water, wood, and synthesizes them into steel, homes, and books.

Up until now, we have seen this highly motivated form of energy build this culture. We have heard it speak, but still we do not understand the meaning; what is the purpose? Finally at one point, if we watch very closely, we might see something leave the earth and land on the moon. At that point, the meaning is clear, for the meaning is birth and the purpose of all that has occurred on this earth is clear. The purpose has been to build a body capable of birth.

We recognize that within this brief span of history we have watched man synthesize all other forms of earthly energy into a body capable of birth, and that this synthesis occurred through the search for God, purpose, and meaning. The effect of this search has been that a cultural body, mankind, has been built and has now outgrown this earth.

All mankind's problems are growth problems.

Pollution is a growth problem.

Population is a growth problem.

War is a growth problem.

Drug addiction is a growth problem.

The problem is mankind has outgrown this earth. The meaning is mankind is being born. Mankind is not sick. Mankind is being born.

The effect is that mankind is no longer needed on this earth, any more than a baby is needed in the womb at birth. Mankind must now know that the meaning of the present is birth, that the meaning of the past was to build a body capable of birth. He must be aware that there is a sequence that preceded his birth, a nonrepetitive sequence of unique events that stretch from a super nova fertilizing a hydrogen cloud, to Armstrong's foot on the moon. Each event differs from those that flank it and each event is a synthesis of those that precede it. We see no repetition — no circular sequence. What we do see is a consistent purpose made manifest in a sequence of constant change.

Mankind may, therefore, have a sense of purpose, for he is part of this ever-evolving purpose. He can understand the meaning of his age as being birth.

To have a sense of direction, mankind must understand the difference between a prenatal existence and a postnatal existence. This difference can be best described in one word — conception.

A baby in the womb cannot conceive, but once born, it gains this capacity, not only to conceive sexually, but culturally.

Mankind, today, is between prenatal history and postnatal history, and before him, there is the Moon and Mars, two planets which await his capacity for conception, the conception of new worlds.

In accepting this capacity for conception, mankind will be accepting a range of choices inconceivable in the womb, inconceivable in prenatal history. Mankind, in accepting his birth, will be accepting a freedom of choice beyond anything he has ever dreamed of or imagined.

If freedom means the right to choose, then accepting his own birth will be accepting a new freedom of choice — the awe-inspiring freedom to conceive.

Can there be a choice between accepting or rejecting our own birth? No. To reject our own birth is to reject freedom of choice, this cosmos as a purposeful universe, the meaning of the present as being birth, the meaning of the past as being the building of a body capable of birth, claiming mankind has no sense of direction, and claiming mankind is not needed in the universe. To reject our own birth is to accept death. And the process of this acceptance on this earth would be dictatorship, devolution, and death.

WHY?

In our recent studies of ecology we have discovered that to have clean water we have to clean up not only Lake Erie and the Mississippi, but also the Thames, the Seine, the Volga, the Yangtse, the seas around Japan, parts of the Mediterranean, indeed, parts of most of the bodies of water on this earth, because all bodies of water on this earth are

part of one body of water. Therefore, to pollute part is, in effect, to pollute all. To have clean water on this earth, we must have some form of total control.

The same holds true for clean air and population control. We must have some form of total control.

The issue is not whether there will be some forms of total control, the issue is whether these forms of control will be voluntarily accepted by the peoples of this earth or whether they will have to be imposed. This issue is dependent on what you have to exchange for voluntary self-restraint. If you have a future to offer mankind, you can expect a voluntary acceptance of self-restraint. If you do not have a future to offer mankind, you cannot expect voluntary acceptance. Therefore, to have total control in a world without a future, you must impose these controls, and the method would be that of a dictatorship. It might begin as something like Plato's Republic, but it would quickly degenerate into a Stalinesque form of tyranny, for the objective would be devolution.

The objective in a world without a future would be to maintain a dying species on a dying planet, which would mean mankind would have to devolve.

No police force or armed services could hope to control a world population successfully. The method of control would have to be more insidious. Tranquilizers and chemicals for sterilization would be placed in the water system, and pacification programs would be carried by the communication system.

In a world without a future, the enemy is hope. To destroy hope, we would have to rewrite our histories, for the thread that runs through all history is the thread of hope.

The effect of this devolution would be the metamorphosis of man into a vegetable, and the ultimate goal would be death.

In a world without a future, we would have a death-oriented society, for death would mark the threshold to the future. All hope would lie beyond death.

In a world without a future, there would be no freedom, there would be no sense of direction, no

sense of meaning, no sense of purpose, and no need for man.

In accepting our own birth, the reverse is true. In accepting our own birth, there is the freedom to build new worlds. There is the need for man to build them. There is the acceptance of the meaning of our age as birth, the sense of being part of a larger, ever-evolving purpose.

To conceive of new worlds on the Moon and Mars, we will need all and the best that people have to give.

Cybernation and automation can do any repetitive task, no matter how complex. Most industries on this earth are consumer industries and maintenance industries, and all these industries are repetitive. All these industries will one day be cybernated and automated. This means there is now a declining need for man to do repetitive tasks.

In a world without a future, this would be but one of many manifestations of a declining need for man. But for a world that is building new worlds, it is the emancipation of man to do this task. Machines can do what has been done, but on this earth only man can do what has never been done.

The meaning of cybernation and automation is the emancipation of mankind to assume the task of conceiving of new worlds on the Moon and Mars. This is comparable to our own bodies.

Our own bodies are cybernated and automated so that we do not have to say, "Eyes focus, ears listen, or heart beat." This is done for us by cybernation and automation. The effect is that our awareness is emancipated. We can look out and concern ourselves with other tasks.

This effect is now apparent for the body of mankind, for the maintenance tasks, essential for this body to turn its attention to the conception of new worlds, is now being taken over by cybernation and automation.

In accepting our own birth, in accepting our capacity to conceive of new worlds, we are accepting the need for man. No other challenge on this earth can make that claim.

If you go to the people of this earth and say we need you for pollution and population control, you

must remember that they are the pollutants and the population. There are too many of them for this earth to sustain.

If you go to the people of this earth and say we need you for war control, you have to remember that in a world without a future, war would be the only dignified way of life and death for a proud people that would rather die fighting than die as a vegetable.

And you cannot go to the people of this earth and say we need you for drug control, for in a world without a future you do not need people.

Not to be needed is painful. Not to be needed for anything, for a capacity to procreate, to work, and to create, is unbearable, and drugs might assuage some of that pain.

But in a world without a future, what difference does it make? In a world without a future, what difference does anything make? It does not. For in a world without a future, life is meaningless.

This is not only the greatest age in the history of mankind, it is the greatest age in the history of this earth. It is the culmination of a cosmic conception. It is the birth of something that is new and needed into the universe.

We are that something, and we are mankind. We are being born. We are between two worlds, between a prenatal and a postnatal existence, and between this earth and new worlds.

In this passage of birth, we require the faith that we are needed. In seeking birth, we seek some manifestation that will affirm this faith. Our faith must be that it is there waiting for us. This must be the faith of all babies.

Looking back from Armstrong's foot on the moon to the super nova that fertilized the hydrogen cloud, we see that all that was done, was needed, and all that was needed was done.

Could Armstrong have gone to the moon without the super nova; the hydrogen cloud; that first amoebalike cell; that life that crawled from the sea, then walked, ran, climbed, and flew; those glacial masses that sculpted many of the valleys and lake beds of this earth; those land masses that heaved and buckled into ridges of mountain ranges; that early manifestation of energy we identify with and call "man;" those cave drawings, cuneiform, and hieroglyphics?

Looking back, our faith in a purposeful universe should be affirmed in witnessing that all that was done was needed, and all that was needed was done.

With birth, we will enter a new community, a galactic community. Like all babies, we can expect to be needed and to be loved by some part of this community. That is enough. For now we must rededicate ourselves to the search for freedom, and those that seek freedom, seek God, purpose, and meaning.

Let us continue this search on this path of glory untold.